Import of pulses

†2505. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that demand of pulses in the country is not being fulfilled with domestic production since many years;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) the average percentage of annual requirement of pulses for domestic consumption met through import during the past one decade;

(d) whether the percentage of import has increased during the years 2008-2009 and 2009-10; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. India has been a net importer of pulses due to a mismatch between domestic supply and demand for pulses. Domestic production of pulses has been around 13-15 million tonnes during the last decade. The demand for pulses is estimated around 14-18 MTs.

(c) It is estimated that about 12-15% of total pulses requirements are imported.

(d) and (e) As per Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics (DGCI&S) data, 2.44 million tonnes of pulses was imported during the period 2008-2009 as compared to 2.84 million tonnes in 2007-08. During April 2009-October 2009, 1.59 million tonnes of pulses was imported as compared to 1.32 million tonnes during the corresponding period in 2008-09.

Wheat import scam in FCI

†2506. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA:

SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that CB1 has traced cases of disproportionate assets against former CMD of Food Corporation of India and an agent both involved in the wheat import scam of the year 1998;

(b) if so, the details of the incriminating facts found against them; and

(c) the action taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.